

7 NOV 76

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page A6

Carter Takes AF Plane To Ga. Vacation Retreat

From News Dispatches

ST. SIMON'S ISLAND, Ga., Nov. 6— Jimmy Carter got his first official taste of presidential luxury today, flying in a large blue and silver Air Force plane to a vacation retreat amid the pines and palms of this coastal island.

"This is the one I've been waiting for," said Carter when he saw the aircraft, emblazoned with the seal of the President of the United States.

"I felt like going back and getting my three-piece black suit when I saw the airplane," the President-elect said. Carter carried his own baggage and wore slacks and a cardigan.

The plane, backup to Air Force One, was decorated inside with pictures of President Ford and his family. It is the same aircraft that carried the body of President Kennedy back from Dallas, was the site of President Johnson's swearing-in, and took President Nixon to China.

As fishing rods and other vacation paraphernalia were unloaded, Carter told reporters he will meet with Ford, and his wife, Rosalynn, will meet with Mrs. Ford, before the end of the month.

But before that, he said, he will receive a national security briefing from Central Intelligence Agency Director George Bush.

Among the luggage was a large box marked "transition documents," and

Carter said Vice President-elect Walter F. Mondale has been given the same material.

Air Force stewards served coffee, a sweet roll and orange juice during the 45-minute flight from Albany, Ga., and Carter explored the plane with "JB," a small black dog owned by Chip and Caron Carter.

Talking to reporters aboard the plane, Carter said his first duty will be to work with Congress on his legislative program.

He said he plans no foreign trips for the first few months of his administration.

"I think that when I have some successful and unsuccessful encounters with the Congress, then that will be a good time to restore my prestige by making a trip overseas," he said.

Carter and his wife plan to stay four or five days at a plantation owned by tobacco heir Smith Bagley and will pay his host \$1,000 to \$2,000 to cover expenses.

Carter said he planned to catch up on his reading of transition documents but also wanted a rest after the long campaign.

"I've got a lot to read, but I think today I'm going to be catching up on my sleep," he said. "We've been working pretty hard since we got home."